

New York Tribune.

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The Tribune uses its best endeavors to insure the trustworthiness of every advertisement it prints and to avoid the publication of all advertisements containing misleading statements or claims.

"No Man's Man" and His "Kindergarten" Platform.

"I stand for the largest possible share of personal liberty," declares Mr. McCall, "no man's man." "If I am elected Mayor there will be no attempt to administer the city's affairs in a childish or kindergarten fashion." Mr. McCall's agents are displaying his picture on films in the moving picture theatres of the city, with the slogan, "A liberal candidate, who will give you a liberal administration."

Mr. McCall's words either mean something or nothing. They are either a declaration of belief and a pledge committing him to some definite policy regarding the administration of the city's business or they are the meaningless chatter of the office-seeker who is trying to be all things to all men. The Tammany candidate owes it to himself and to the voters whose support he is soliciting to be precise and specific in his words.

Did Mr. McCall by any chance mean that if he were elected Mayor there should be "personal liberty" for the keepers of gambling houses to ply their trade at the expense of the public? Did he mean that he would not be so "childish" as to expect the Police Department to keep the gamblers and political "gorillas" from blackmailing the small merchants of the lower East Side? Did he mean that his "liberal administration" would be liberal in its handling of contracts, so that Tammany might fatten on the public funds, as of yore?

If Mr. McCall did not mean these things, he should make haste to say that he did not mean them. If he does not say that he did not mean them, the lawbreakers and law evaders who stand in perpetual alliance with Tammany will believe he did mean them, as they have interpreted loose and general statements like his from other Tammany candidates. Mr. McCall owes it both to Tammany's followers of that class and the decent and orderly taxpayers whose votes he is seeking to say just what he does mean. He cannot use such "kindergarten" expressions and expect to fool the people with them.

Partial Reason About Panama Tolls.

Mr. Adamson's announced purpose is a welcome indication of at least partially returning reason in the matter of Panama Canal tolls. It will, if it is carried into effect, for a time avert the shame of a breach of faith. We should have to see the world's greatest engineering work, upon which this country so properly can vaunt itself, put into use with a contemptuous violation of the very title deeds under which it was constructed. Every postponement of an evil act is welcome, as involving a possibility that the act will never be consummated.

It would be far better, however, to repeal outright the obnoxious and dishonorable discriminatory clause. We must wish, too, that the proposed suspension of it were based upon less sordid grounds. The demand for repeal of discrimination and for equal and uniform treatment of all nations proceeds entirely from the conviction that discrimination would violate the treaty. Mr. Adamson proposes, in effect, that we shall suspend the discriminatory clause until we find out how much the operation of the canal will cost and how much the tolls will bring in. If we need the tolls on American coast shipping in order to make the canal pay, he thinks that the present advocates of discrimination will yield and permit domestic tolls to be collected. But if they are not needed, the implication is that discrimination may be established and maintained.

That is nothing less than a valuation of American honor and good faith in dollars and cents. It is practically saying that we will keep our treaty obligations if our pocket requires it, but will break them if we find that we can peculiarly afford to do so. Let us hope that Mr. Adamson's bill will give us breathing space and thinking space to come to a more worthy view of the matter.

The Registration Figures Look Good.

The opponents of Tammany have good reason to feel satisfied with the registration figures. The total for this year is 26,031 greater than the total for the last Mayoralty election. Since the total in Manhattan, the stronghold of Tammany, fell off 11,330, the gain made by the other boroughs over 1906 was 37,361.

Brooklyn has always been anti-Tammany. The Bronx has become so in recent years, and Queens, though strongly Democratic, is very independent in local fights. Richmond's vote is so small that it may be left out of consideration.

The continued decline of Tammany strength in downtown Manhattan is also ominous, since in the districts below 23d street straight Tammany voters are most numerous and conspicuous. Compared with 1909, these downtown districts show losses in registration as follows: First, 1,185; Second, 1,611; Third, 696; Fourth, 234; Fifth, 1,445; Seventh, 1,101; Ninth, 1,184; Tenth, 333, and Eleventh, 611. The Fourth gained 434 and the Eighth, a district largely of alien population, 207. The Sixth, the only Republican district in this part of Manhattan, gained 202.

A pretty full vote will be cast for Mayor—only about 35,000 less than that cast for President last year. There is every indication that the voters are alive to the opportunity now offered to chastise Tammany and cut off the profits of the "smug and sleek" who have been accumulating fortunes at the city's expense.

Back to Wooden Shoes.

With the shortage in the supply of cattle and the increasing prices of hides and leather comes some consolation in the information given out, by the United States Forest Service that there is an increased call for beechwood for the manufacture of wooden shoes. There have been a few made in glass producing sections and for workers in steel

mills, where hot grates and floors are common; but now it seems that not only workers in breweries, tanneries and other cold or wet places are beginning to use them, but farmers are falling into line and discarding the "cowhide boot" and other styles of leather footwear.

As a measure of economy the use of wooden shoes has much to commend it, as they cost only 60 to 75 cents a pair and they are said to last for at least two years. Already the business is reported to have reached "considerable proportions," and the time may come when, under the combination of costly leather and cheap wood, "sabotage" will be possible to the disgruntled worker here under the same conditions which gave rise to the name in Europe.

While wooden shoes are not likely to become fashionable, their utility is not to be doubted, and as almost any one with a beech tree and a few tools can make an unlimited supply of them the wearers of the wooden shoes will at least be in a measure beyond the reach of the leather and shoe machinery trusts.

Fusion's Need of Funds.

Every voter who believes that Tammany Hall should be kept out of power in this city and the fusion ticket elected should give what financial assistance he can to the cause. Murphy is able to keep a full war chest. Contributions from the saloonkeepers, the gamblers, the law evaders and the lawbreakers go to Tammany naturally. The fusion campaign can well do without such contributions, but it needs and is entitled to the financial aid of the decent, law-abiding taxpayers who hope for an honest, progressive and economical administration of the city's affairs.

It takes money to defend the city from Tammany, and every cent spent that way is well spent. The fusion campaign has already gone far on small means. It would be pitiful, indeed, if a splendid work should be checked at the crisis of the fight because of lack of means. This is the people's fight. Their voices, their votes and their money should be given freely to protect the city from Tammany, an "organized appetite."

Restricting Street Signboards.

Announcement is made by the National Highway Protective Society that its highway patrol has practically cleared the roads between this city and Niagara Falls of signs posted along the highways in defiance of law. It has also cleared the roads north of Albany as far as Lake George, and is turning its attention to other sections of the state in this commendable campaign for protecting nature's beauties from defacement by hideous billboards.

The rural resident and those fortunate enough to be able to make automobile tours outside this city thus have a great advantage over the residents of the metropolis. Unfortunately, there is no highway patrol here or other agency to censor the glaring electric signs and lurid posters which shriek aloud to high heaven. It is not too much to hope that some day there will be a law fully regulating the size and manner of display of outdoor advertising here, as there is in most European cities. But it approaches very slowly, and the city dweller is not to be blamed for envying the upstate at times.

Mr. Bryan's Sixth Sense.

"The sense of propriety may be called the sixth sense," opines Mr. Bryan, defending at length his liking for the tent, the cheering throng and those delightful Tyrolean yodelers. Only aristocrats, toadies and sycophants (yes, they "fawned" in Mr. Bryan's utterance) could possibly object to his "mingling with the multitude."

Unfortunately, with all his alert senses, Mr. Bryan misses the point of the criticism. The prime objection was not to his mingling with anybody but to his cashing in as a side show while drawing a salary from the United States of America.

The criticism accuses Mr. Bryan not so much of lacking a sense of propriety as of possessing an overweening sixth sense for the nimble dollar.

Murphy on Pure Elections.

In his denial of Mr. Mitchell's charge that he plans to import an army of repeaters to help Tammany in the coming election Charles F. Murphy makes a distinction where there is no difference. He objects to the charge being made against himself by name, but has nothing to say about its having been made against Tammany Hall, of whom he is, as Josh Billings would have put it, referring to the McClellan-Hearst contest, he says:

"The cry of ballot box stuffing and importing repeaters was immediately raised, but entirely disproved by the recount of the ballots in the Supreme Court. The result of that proceeding showed that the election had been conducted honestly."

The result of that proceeding showed nothing of the sort. It showed that the counting of the ballots had been done in a manner as nearly approaching exactness as could have been expected in the rush and hurry of Election Night. It did not show, however, how many of those ballots were deposited in the boxes unlawfully, nor how many times the same persons voted in different polling places, nor how many persons voted who had no right to cast ballots.

The Murphy rebuttal goes wide of the mark and will convince no one who is familiar with Tammany's election methods.

The Italian Elections.

The general elections which are to be held in Italy this month will be of great interest in several respects. They will be the first elections held since the Turkish war. It will be remembered that the unfortunate Abyssinian campaign of years ago had a marked effect upon the elections. The world will be curious to observe the popular verdict expressed at the polls upon the triumphant campaign in Libya.

It will also be the first test of the new franchise system, under which practically universal suffrage is enjoyed and the number of potential electors is considerably more than doubled. In the last elections there were only 3,247,722 voters. This year there will be 8,635,148 if all those registered exercise their privileges. There is as yet no indication that the Catholic abstention will be abandoned. At the last election the Pope gave permission to Catholics to vote in certain constituencies, where Catholic candidates were running against Socialists or other openly anti-Catholic candidates; but elsewhere the prohibition against Catholics voting was maintained. This year there seems to be no change in the situation. The prohibition has not been removed. It is a question, however, whether it may not be much more largely ignored than hitherto, as the civil government desires it to be and as the best interests of the nation require it to be. If so, a radical change in Parliamentary conditions might ensue.

It is gratifying to note that the distinguished Mayoralty candidate who thinks of introducing the



Are parks a luxury, Mr. McCall?

sword duel into local politics met his rival the other evening in the hallway of the Lexington Avenue Opera House and let him off with a mere "Hello, John!"

One Broadway restaurant proprietor is talking about abolishing the cabaret. Maybe some time Broadway will get back to the idea that furnishing food is the real business of a restaurant.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

This story, published first in an Antwerp paper, is making the rounds of the European press: When Ysaie was in the United States he was invited to dine at the home of one of the money kings in New York. After dinner, when several paid entertainers had been heard, his host asked Ysaie to "play something," and when the guest asked to be excused, the American, so goes the story, who had once been a cobbler, said: "I should think you would be glad to show your talent," and the guest complied reluctantly and soon took leave. The American was in Belgium this year and accepted an invitation to dine with Ysaie. A large company was assembled, and soon after the guests retired to the drawing room a servant brought a pair of torn boots to the American and the host asked if he would kindly mend them. The millionaire was speechless, but the host said with a broad smile, "I should think you would be glad to show your talent." A Berlin paper, reprinting the story, says: "It may be untrue, but it is funny."

Uppson—You have a new baby at your house, I hear.
Downing—Great guns! And we live four miles apart! I had no idea any one could hear him that distance—Tit-Bits.

It is much more difficult to-day than it was ten or twelve years ago to dig up stories of the swindling of immigrants at Ellis Island by the concessionaires. One of the earliest duties devolving upon William Williams when he was appointed Commissioner by Mr. Roosevelt was that of eliminating the preying holders of the privileges for feeding the immigrants and changing their money and carrying their baggage. One day Commissioner Williams was visited by two brothers. One had been in this country several years and had learned the value of a dollar. The other had landed the day previous. "My brother landed yesterday with money worth \$50," said the brother who had been long in the land of Uncle Samuel. "When he came to me he had only \$27. Where is the rest of the money?" Commissioner Williams turned to the money changer and asked him to explain. "I don't remember anything about it," said the concessionaire, "but if he says that is so, here's the money." When he got out in the hall he asked the assistant commissioner if he thought it would make any difference with his getting a renewal of the privilege!

"Some of your views are radically wrong!"
"Well," replied the statesman, "a lot of my constituents are always mistaken. Sometimes being wrong gets you more votes than being right."—Washington Star.

A musical fish hawk has lately been varying the monotony of street cries in Liverpool by utilizing ragtime melodies. The effect has been a trifle ludicrous, as, for instance, when to the tune of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" he bellowed forth the information that "Flukes are fresh and cheap to-day." But whatever may be thought of the expedient he has adopted, it has the prime advantage, from his point of view, of attracting public attention.

"Is he intelligent?"
"I guess he must be. Didn't you see what a fight the lawyers on both sides put up to have him kept off the jury?"—Detroit Free Press.

A squirrel ran across the West Drive in Central Park the other day, dodging three automobiles successfully. "It's curious," observed a park policeman to a bystander, "that those little rascals of squirrels, running in front of automobiles every hour of the day, manage to live at all. It's a wonder they're not exterminated here by the autos. But in the twelve years I've been in this park I've never yet heard of one of them being injured."

"Is your mother a suffragette?"
"You bet she ain't. Me father's a prize fighter."—Life.

AIGRETTES, EGGS, ETC.

Mrs. Pankhurst's Arrival Stirs a Reader to Much Philosophy.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The coming of Mrs. Pankhurst we should regard without trepidation, and indeed with sincere pleasure. She will get a courteous hearing here, and three square meals a day. If she wishes them, without any "cat and mouse" business; and I have no fear that she will smash windows, burn houses or throw acid on the golf greens. But to one of the forewords of her advent I must take exception; or, rather, I must lament that she uttered it for the further burdening of the weary Titan of the philosophic world.

"What," she asked, "what about men who kill birds for aigrettes?" There had been an imputation that women were responsible for cruel bird slaughter. She repudiated it with the reminder that it is men who do the killing. But then, replies her antagonist, the men do it because the women want the aigrettes. Yes, is her retort, but the women want them only because the men want them to wear them. Even so, comes the apt rejoinder, but the men want them to wear them only because they know that the women hanker after such vanities of adornment. And so forth and so forth in *saecula saeculorum*.

As for me, give me back the good old question of the Lamekin Club, inherited by it from the "Chauteau Circle of the Ark." Which was the first, the hen that laid the egg or the egg from which the hen was hatched? It is simplicity itself contrasted with the problem of responsibility for the aigrette.

New York, Oct. 17, 1913.

FLAG ETIQUETTE

What the Rules Prescribe for Displaying the Stars and Stripes.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: On Columbus Day I noticed that a number of persons when raising and lowering the flag permitted it to touch the ground.

I would be the last one to accuse any of these lovers of Old Glory of sacrilege or a lack of patriotism for so doing, but rather would attribute this breach of flag etiquette to a lack of knowledge of the national custom regulating the proper use, display and respect for our beautiful and glorious national emblem.

The following rules adopted by the United States War Department may prove of some service to those who desire to give proper expression to their love and veneration for the tri-color:

"Whenever 'The Star Spangled Banner' is played at a military station or at any place where persons belonging to the military service are present in their official capacity or present unofficially but in uniform, all officers and enlisted men present will stand at attention, facing toward the music, retaining that position until the last note of the air and then salute. With no arms in hand, the salute will be the hand salute. When played under the circumstances contemplated by this paragraph 'The Star Spangled Banner' will be played through without repetition of any part that is not required to be repeated to make the air complete."

"At every military post or station the flag will be hoisted at the sounding of the first note of the reveille, or of the first note of the march, if a march be played before the reveille. The flag will be lowered at the sounding of the last note of the retreat, and while the flag is being lowered the band will play 'The Star Spangled Banner,' or if there be no band present the field music will sound 'to the color.' When 'to the color' is sounded by the field music while the flag is being lowered the same respect will be observed as when 'The Star Spangled Ban-

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An Open Forum for Public Debate.

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